

EUROPEAN STATES.—The appointment of the Polish General Skrzynecki to a military command in the Belgian army has given great offence, to Prussia and Austria, whose Ambassadors at the Belgian court, have in consequence demanded and received their passports, the Belgian ministers being at the same time recalled from Berlin and Vienna: affairs thus assume a warlike aspect, but it seems incredible that actual hostilities should arise from such a cause. In France the chambers of deputies having been dissolved, a severe election struggle is going on among the several political parties.

The Emperor of Russia has given orders to export the surplus corn of his vast territories, in order to assist foreign nations who are in want of that essential article. The ports of the Black sea are accordingly crowded, with British and other vessels taking in cargoes of wheat and barley. The King of the two Sicilies has also permitted the exportation of corn from his dominions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GLASGOW COLLEGE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—A special public meeting of this Society was held in the Greek Class-room, on the evening of Monday the 25th ult., at seven o'clock, for the purpose of receiving intelligence from the Rev. John Machar of Kingston, Upper Canada, regarding the religious state of our North American colonies. The meeting was opened with prayer by the President, Mr. W. C. Burns, who commenced proceedings by a few introductory remarks. It was then addressed by the Rev. Dr. Burns of Paisley, Secretary to the Glasgow Colonial Society, on the general religious state of the North American Colonies, and their pre-eminent claims on the sympathy and exertions of Christians in Scotland. This powerful and impressive appeal was ably followed up by Mr. Machar, who entered into more minute details, illustrative of the degraded religious condition of our countrymen, who have been left unprovided with the ordinances of the Gospel, and opened up, with great clearness and interest, the means in contemplation for the removal of this affecting destitution; particularly the scheme of employing Missionaries to itinerate among them; and the proposal to found a Canadian college, in connection with the Church of Scotland, for the rearing of a fuller and more regular supply of ministers and missionaries than can be obtained from the Mother Country. He urged likewise, with great power, upon those students of divinity and preachers who were present, the duty of forming a small band of missionaries, and going forth in company to this large and most important field of Christian labour. The meeting was then addressed, in excellent speeches, by Dr. Henderson of St. Enoch's, Joint Secretary to the Colonial Society, and by Dr. Smyth of St. George's, and afterwards by J. D. Bryce, Esq., and William Collins, Esq., and after some concluding observations from the President, the whole proceedings were closed with prayer by Dr. Smyth. This meeting was numerously attended, and ought to be regarded with peculiar interest

by the Church, as bearing so directly upon the minds of those who are to be her future pastors. It has been hitherto an affecting indication of the low state of true godliness among our students, that fields of Christian labour have been opened up, and the church has pre-claimed her desire to send forth her messengers to the glorious work of reaping the plenteous harvest; and yet many, who profess to have taken on the yoke of Christ, and to covet the honour of being his ambassadors, refuse to undertake this charge, and leave our poor expatriated countrymen to famish and to die for the want of the bread of life! Ought not, then, the eyes of God's people to be turned, with more anxious interest, to our universities, as the great sources from whence the light and glory of the Lord is to spring forth? And ought they not, in their private closets, and in their united supplications, to bear upon their hearts, with earnestness and fervency, our College Missionary Societies, which have already been made the channels of divine grace to not a few, and may, by the copious effusion of the Holy Ghost, become the nurseries of men who, drinking deeply at the fountains of salvation, and growing early in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus, will, in due time, come forth to sound the trumpet of awakening to the Church at large, and who, supported by her means, and richly animated, in answer to her prayers, shall speed, as swift and joyous messengers, to the ends of the earth, "to preach the gospel of peace, and bring good tidings of good things."—*Scottish Guardian.*

THE WELL SPENT SABBATH.—The Sabbath, pre-eminently above every other day, demands an undivided attention to works of piety and love, if we would maintain a spirit of prayer. Its stated and frequent occurrence is evidently designed to maintain a habit of devotion in the soul; and would men but avail themselves of the spiritual privileges, and feed upon the spiritual food, which Sabbaths provide, "in the strength of that meat" they would be enabled to encounter the privations and distractions of the intervening days of secular life, and to raise their spiritual course to the Mount of God, with patience, safety, and comfort. As regards the Christian world, the profanation or observance of the Sabbath is, respectively, one of the surest marks of a corrupt or a reformed church. As regards Christian experience, many a pious individual has testified, with Sir Matthew Hale, that the comfort of the week was intimately connected with the strict and spiritual observance of the Sabbath. The Sabbath opens, as it were, a vista into the kingdom of heaven, of which it is a reflected copy, though faint indeed and imperfect; and therefore our relish for the one tests, not uncertainly, the degree of our preparedness for the other. But Sabbath sanctification is not the heartless performance of any duties, however excellent: it is a drinking into the Sabbath spirit, and a joyful acquiescence in the permitted privilege of serving the Lord without distraction. The Sabbath permits us, unshackled, not only by worldly duties but by worldly cares and worldly thoughts, to worship in spirit a spiritual God. We should study to maintain, on this sacred day, a holy serenity, a sanctified cheerfulness, unmarred by any allowed intrusion of the distracting business or anxious cares of ordinary life. Every occupation, word, and thought, should be stamped, "Holiness unto the Lord." Let us but do our part, God being our helper; let us but study to preserve the temple undefiled, and prepared to receive the heavenly visitant, and the spirit of prayer, peace, and joy will enter in and dwell there. Let us turn away our foot from the Sabbath, from doing our pleasure on God's holy day;